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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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# SECURITY INFORMATION

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## AGENT REPORT

1. NAME OF SUBJECT OR TITLE OF INCIDENT

Institut fuer Gegenwart

ACTIO	INFORM	IN	OROS
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2. DATE SUBMITTED

17 Feb 1953

3. CONTROL SYMBOL OR FILE NO.

110 02496

1/28/55 SBJ/WAB/cbh

4. REPORT OF FINDINGS

On 13 May 1953, the following information concerning Luis Eder and his alleged affiliations with the Institut fuer Gegenwartforschung was received from Informant 5010 during the course of a routine liaison meeting.

Luis Eder, aka Lois Eder, aka Luis Eder, born 27 February 1916 at Florian, Land Linz, Upper Austria, Austrian citizen, married, agnostic, currently resides at Losensteinerstrasse 13, Linz, c/o Obermaier. Subsequent to his last gainful employment as a traveling salesman for the Ferdinand Ruter Wholesale Candy Firm, Weingartshofstrasse 20, Linz, Upper Austria, from 19 June 1950 to 3 April 1952, Eder received unemployment compensation of approximately 1200 ANS (Austrian National Schilling) per month until 15 November 1952. On or about that date Eder informed the Linz Labor Office that he was now employed as an independent writer and had no intention of seeking another position. Eder also mentioned that he was currently taking a course in Munich but failed to mention the exact nature or purpose of the course. Eder is current editor of Die Stimme der Furchtlosen, formerly known as Wir Furchtlosen, a periodical published by the Friedrich Nietzsche Publishing House in Munich and printed by the Welschmehl Printing House in Vels, Upper Austria. Distribution of this periodical in Austria was outlawed by decision of the Executive Committee of the Allied Control Council on 10 March 1953. Eder left Austria enroute to Munich twice in March and twice in April 1953. Eder also visited Italy for a short vacation in April, ostensibly in order to obviate the necessity of having the Italian currency which represented the proceeds netted from the sale of Die Furchtlose Stimme cleared through the Austrian National Bank. Informant believes that the actual purpose of Eder's trip to Italy was to effect liaison with some of the intelligence contacts of Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl, for whom he is allegedly working. Eder's known acquaintances and close associates include Dr. Otto Schott, born 1 August 1916 in Vienna, residing Dirghoferstrasse 4, Linz, co-owner with Hoettl's wife of the Nebelungenverlag, located at Bethlehemstrasse 68, Linz; Erich Kernmayr, born 27 February 1906, Graz, journalist and editor of Die Soldatenzeitung, currently residing at Ort 84, Grunden, Upper Austria; Lt. Colonel Franz Philipp, presently residing at W 35 Tiergartenstrasse, Berlin.

Informant further stated that Eder "entertains" considerably and that the bulk of his "social" contacts consists of former German Army officers, who are Austrian, former Nazis and members of the Upper Austria Artists' Association. To the best of Informant's knowledge Eder has received no German nationals at his home since 23 March 1953 -- the date surveillance of Eder's home was initiated by Source. Eder employs a private secretary, Margarete Lehmann, nee Wipplinger, born 2 January 1919 in Linz, Upper Austria. Lehmann's husband, Werner Lehmann, born 22 August 1911 in Posenania, Germany is a construction engineer and German national. Lehmann, who was formerly employed by

5. TYPED NAME AND ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL AGENT

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6. SIGNATURE OF SPECIAL AGENT

*Stuart W. Brockman*

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the United Austrian Iron and Steel Works, Linz, has resided in Serenta, Switzerland, since April 1952. When Eder is not in Linz, his mail is delivered to his secretary. That Eder is not in financial straits is indicated by the fact that in March 1953 he purchased a Model L-9T motorscooter for the sum of 9000 ANS. The motorscooter was registered with the Linz Federal Police on 4 April 1953 and assigned the license number L.22.244. Eder has ostensibly severed his connections with the Social Revolutionary Workers' Federation of Austria (an ultra-right organization composed of convinced Nazis) for opportunistic reasons and is currently wooing the Socialist Party through which he hopes to obtain a suitable apartment for his family. Eder's family resides at St. Pankraz, Upper Austria. (B-3)

Agents' Notes: Although Informant 5010 combed the records of police agencies to which he has access, he was unable to find any information concerning SUBJECT Institute.

On 6 April 1953, Alois Eder requested an interview with a representative of this Sub-Detachment during the course of which the following information was obtained:

Eder stated that he had used his former position as a traveling salesman for the Ferdinand Huber Wholesale Candy Firm, Weingartenhofstrasse 20, Linz, as a cover to canvass the Soviet Zone of Austria and to obtain military intelligence information for the German Intelligence Agency "Amt fuer Verfassungsschutz" (Office for the Protection of the Constitution). During this phase of Eder's intelligence activity he had employed as a Source Dr. Gerhard Lehner, Vienna XII, Ruckergasse 71, a 26-year-old newspaper man who was currently unemployed. On 1 April 1953 Eder had posted a letter to Lehner in which he stated that Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl had been arrested by the Americans and in which he requested that Lehner attempt to ascertain how closely Hoettl had been associated with Kurt Ponger and Otto Verber, who had recently been arrested for transmitting intelligence information to the Soviets. Eder expressed his fear that the letter may have been intercepted by the Soviets. Eder further stated that since he had been warned by his control agent in Munich not to visit the Soviet Zone again, he suspected that Hoettl may have compromised some of his (Eder's) sources to the Soviets. (F-6)

Agents' Notes: The general tenor of Eder's remarks indicated that he is fully aware that his control agent, the representative of the Amt fuer Verfassungsschutz, is actually a cutout for a U.S. intelligence agency. The possibility is

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posed that Eder requested the interview with this Sub-Detachment because he believed that his association with Hoettl might be used as the basis for his own arrest and that he exploited this opportunity to clear his own record by informing a U.S. intelligence agency concerning his suspicion regarding Hoettl's possible Soviet ties.

Civil Censorship Group coverage, postal and telephonic, which was maintained on Eder's place of residence from 17 March 1953 to 13 May 1953, revealed information appended to each copy of this A/R as Exhibit I.

On 1 April 1953, records of the Krankenkasse (Health Insurance Office), Linz, Upper Austria, were examined concerning Alois Eder and the following information was revealed:

Eder was employed at Hofmann and Co., Kirchdorf, Upper Austria, from 16 September 1947 to 17 July 1948; at Melzer and Co., Linz, from 1 August 1948 to 21 May 1949; at Verband der Unabhngigen (League of Independents), Linz, from 1 June 1949 to 15 February 1950; and with Ferdinand Huber, Linz, from 19 June 1950 to 3 April 1952. (B-2)

On 1 April 1953, the records of the Passamt (Passport Office), Linz, Upper Austria, were examined relative to Alois Eder, born 17 February 1919, and revealed the following information:

Alois Eder, born 17 February 1919 in St. Florian, Upper Austria, residing at 13 Losensteinerstrasse, Linz, was issued Austrian Passport No. SA 748882, on 16 March 1952, valid for all countries of Europe until 6 December 1956. The record further revealed that Eder was issued birth certificate No. 640 by the parish office at St. Florian, Upper Austria, and certificate of Austrian Citizenship No. STBN 01-11/4-1951, 5664, by the Linz Magistrate on 3 December 1951. The record shows that Eder was issued Identity Card No. 2/32322/47 on 10 July 1947 by the Kirchdorf District Pass Office. (B-2)

On 1 April 1953, records of the Arbeitsamt (Labor Office), Linz, Upper Austria, were examined concerning Alois Eder, 13 Losensteinerstrasse, and the following information was revealed:

Alois Eder, born 17 February 1919 in St. Florian, Upper Austria, Austrian citizen, married since 1943, was a member of the German Army from 1938 until 21 June 1942. From 18 June 1943 until 29 August 1949 he was employed as a sales agent by Melzer and Company, a bakery firm. From 1 June 1949 until 15 February

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1950 he was an employee of the Upper Austrian section of the League of Independents (a neo-Nazi political organization). From 24 May 1950 until 18 June 1950, he was listed as being unemployed. From 19 June 1950 until 3 April 1952, he was listed as an employee and agent of Huber and Company, candy factory, Weingartshofstrasse, Linz. From 11 April 1952 until 14 November 1952, he was registered as being unemployed. (B-2)

On 6 May 1953, the name files of 430th CIC, Sub-Detachment "B", were examined concerning Alois Eder, aka Lois Eder, aka Luis Eder, and the following information was revealed:

A/R L/26681, dated 8 August 1952 (evaluation C-6), Subject: "HOETTL, Wilhelm, Dr., Forming Alleged Anti-Communist Movement in Austria"; Eder is mentioned as having accompanied Hoettl on a trip to Germany where he visited and discussed politics with former SS General Felix Steiner. Eder is further mentioned as the former Provincial Secretary of the VdU (Verband der Unabhngigen - League of Independents) for Upper Austria, who was allegedly removed from his position because of his Russophile attitude and friendship with Soviet officers and Dr. Adolf Slavik, leader of the NL (Nationale Liga - National League).

A/R L/26666, dated 4 August 1952 (evaluation F-6), Subject: "Austrians Submit Political Information to German Newspaper"; Alois Eder accompanied by Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl recently visited former SS General Felix Steiner in Munich, Germany. Eder allegedly gave Steiner a situation report dealing with the present political situation in Austria.

A/R L/25448, dated 25 February 1952 (evaluation B-C-3), Subject: "Wir Furchtlosen", describes that periodical as an anti-Western, pro-Nazi publication, owned and edited by Alois Eder. Eder is described as allegedly planning a trip to Germany early in 1952 to check on the German Army, its methods of recruiting, and his (Eder's) possibility of joining the German Army. Eder was also interested in the financial advantages of emigrating to Germany.

A/R L/24634, dated 28 December 1951 (evaluation B-3), Subject: "SAOs - Sozialrevolutionrer Arbeiterbund Oesterreichs (Revolutionary Socialist Workers' Federation)", lists Alois Eder as one of the original leaders of Subject organization and as one of the local organizers of the VdU and the NL.

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A/R L/23586, dated 17 September 1951 (evaluation B-2), Subject: "Identity of KP'Co Members in the City of Linz", lists Alois Eder, born 17 February 1919 in St. Florian, as an alleged member of the KP'Co (Kommunistische Partei Oesterreichs - Communist Party of Austria).

A/R L/23319, dated 30 July 1951 (evaluation B-C-3), Subject: "Nationale Liga, National League, Upper Austria Progress Report", describes Alois Eder, residing Linz, Hegrellweg 21, as a former VdU functionary in Upper Austria and SS Obersturmfuehrer as having made anti-American speeches in Muehlviertel (Soviet Zone of Upper Austria).

MOIC, L/18738, dated 26 April 1950 (unevaluated), Subject: "Meeting of the VdU on 13 April in the Herbachsiedlung in Urfahr; MOIC L/16417, dated 6 October 1949 (evaluation B-2), Subject: "VdU - Meeting 5 October 1949"; MOIC L/16115, dated 19 September 1949 (evaluation B-2), Subject: "VdU - Meeting 15 September 1949; MOIC L/15696 (no date, no evaluation), Subject: "VdU - Meeting 12 August 1949" confirm Alois Eder as a functionary and speaker of the VdU.

MOIC, L/18564, dated 11 April 1950 (no evaluation), Subject: "VdU - Alleged Terror Organization, Re: Investigation", lists Alois Eder as attending a meeting of Subject organization on 10 November 1949.

MOIC, L/18164, dated 9 March 1950 (unevaluated), Subject: "VdU - Split in Ranks, Re: Progress Report No. 1", describes Alois Eder as being dismissed from the VdU.

MOIC, L/17927, dated 23 February 1950 (evaluation C-2), Subject: "VdU - Split in Ranks, Re: Investigation", lists Alois Eder as being a member of the "Spider" movement and as having many differences of opinion with Gustav Neumann, Upper Austrian chairman of the VdU, and as having been ousted from the VdU because of his participation in the "Spider" movement.

Memo - Camp Marcus W. Orr, Salzburg, Austria, APO 541, US Army, Subject: "Discharges from June 22nd through 29th of June 1947", TO: G-2 Z.C.A., Attn: Major Alexander, lists Eder as having been transferred from that internment camp to the custody of the Salzburg police on 24 June 1947.

Security Arrest Report: Eder, Alois, arrested 18 May 1945, SS Obersturmfuehrer since 30 January 1945, Automatic Arrest per USFA Int Dir 6/Section IV, transferred to Camp Maurice L. Tyler.

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A/R L/26434, dated 17 September 1952, Subject: "EDER, Lois, Linz, Losensteinerstrasse 13", chronicled Eder's activities from birth to 17 September 1952. (Thirteen copies of A/R L/26434 were transferred to requesting agency on 7 April 1953.)

Agents' Notes: On 11 May 1953, the name files of 430th CIC, Sub-Detachment "B", were examined concerning all personalities mentioned in this report other than Lois Eder and the following pertinent information was revealed:

There are numerous references on file that mention Dr. Wilhelm Hoettl as a well-known German intelligence agent.

There are numerous references on file that list Erich Kornmayr, born 27 February 1906, as an employee of the German newspaper "Deutsche Soldatenzeitung, writer, journalist, and active in Austrian political deals.

There are numerous references on file that list Dr. Josef Dobretsberger, born 28 February 1903, as chairman of the Democratic Union.

There are numerous references on file that list Dr. Gerhard Lehner, Vienna XII, Ruckergasse 71, as a military intelligence source for Lois Eder.

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